

ATTACHMENT 4 – PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The proposed project consists of two components; a groundwater study and construction of monitoring wells. The study will evaluate historic water movement, imported water recharge impacts to said water movement, water quality associated with recharge activities, and other constituents of concern including nitrate, uranium, and TDS. The monitoring wells will provide static water levels at critical locations near the Mission Creek Fault supplementing the current CASGEM program and will provide additional water quality data.

The project includes study of both the Mission Creek Sub-basin (MCSB) and the (GHSB). GHSB is included with the MCSB under Bulletin 118. A map depicting the groundwater basin locations and water flow directions are shown on Attachment 4a.

During current efforts related to the GWMP, it has become abundantly clear that additional data is needed to accurately model the groundwater basin. As shown on the attachment 4a, water enters the groundwater basin at various locations and moves through both MCSB and GHSB ultimately discharging in the Whitewater Basin. In addition, much needed imported water is recharged at the Mission Creek Recharge Facilities. Developing a comprehensive knowledge of the basin flow characteristics will lead to development of improved operations basin management plan.

The project team is presented on the enclosed Attachment 4b. MSWD staff will provide overall management for the project. GSI, proposal enclosed as attachment 4c, will provide the groundwater hydrology services for the project. They have extensive history with MCSB and GHSB's and have provided similar services to the MSWD for many years. Details of their proposed work are presented in the referenced proposal. Other members of the project team include Tom Dobson and Associates for environmental compliance, TKE Engineering surveying and planning, LOR Geotechnical for soils analysis, and LDM Associates for labor compliance.

MSWD's service area is designated and recognized as an economically disadvantaged community (DAC) and will benefit from the efforts of our study. Enhance basin management will result in less costs to rate payers. Further, it will prevent MSWD from investing limited resources in areas that will experience water quality treatment adding greater costs.

Not only will the program be vital to MSWD's continued operations but will also be beneficial to the other planning partners including of Coachella Valley Integrated Regional Water Management Plan (CVIRWMP). Furthermore, results of the study will be disseminated at public meetings for the general public.

The goals of the CVIRWMP are also aligned with our study and monitoring well(s) project, to optimize water supply reliability, protect or improve water quality, provide stewardship of water related natural resources, coordinate and ingrate water resource management, and ensure cultural, social and economic sustainability of water in the Coachella Valley. In addition to the CVIRWMP, MSWD, Desert Water Agency, and Coachella Valley Water District are working cooperatively under a DWR grant to create a Water Management Plan for the MissionCreek and Garnet Hill Sub-basins,a copy of a progress invoice is enclosed as 9c. Final completion of the plan is expected in October 2012.

MSWD has and continues to participate with CVIRWMP through DWR's Proposition 84 grant program. Having received planning and disadvantaged communities (DAC) grants, MSWD is reaching out to DAC's. The goal of which is to include and seek out the input from those affected groups and other stakeholders in the valley, including private enterprise, regulatory agencies, the tribes and others on water issues.

MSWD, together with our project team,has a long history of similar project delivery. The monitoring wells will be completed in accordance with regulatory requirements. The completed work will provide new information helping MSWD to enhance basin management.As a CASGEM program participate, MSWDwill continue to collect and provide data to the State with the assistance of this project.

MSWD has the resources and commitment to implement the currently proposed project and to collect data into the future. As a public agency, we have a duty and obligation to our customers to be vigilant, and ever looking forward for the safety and health of our customers and community, with a watchful eye on performing this task in the most economical fashion possible. Our additional contribution of MSWD funding helps to support and expand the grant efforts to the extent necessary and needed.

Other planning partners in the Coachella Valley are supporting our application. Support letter enclosed in Attachment 4c.